



Assuring safe, stable, nurturing  
relationships and environments for all children



**Vision and Unifying Framework for CDC Division of Violence Prevention's  
Child Maltreatment Prevention Work**



## Safe, Stable, Nurturing Relationships and Environments

- **Safety:** The extent to which children are free from fear and secure from physical or psychological harm within their social and physical environment
- **Stability:** The degree of predictability and consistency in children's social, emotional, and physical environment
- **Nurturing:** The extent to which a parent or caregiver is available and able to sensitively respond to and meet the needs of the child







## Safe, Stable, Nurturing Relationships and Environments Are Also Important Outside the Home



- Buffer the absence in the home
- Safe, stable, nurturing relationships are important for adults as well!!

\*Found to have protective role in interrupting cycle of child maltreatment across generations: Journal of Adolescent Health, Oct 2013



# Importance of Early Experiences/Relationships

- Children experience their world through their relationships
- Early experiences are built into our bodies and brains--- for better or for worse
- Healthy development in the early years provides the building blocks for future learning, behavior, and health:
  - educational achievement
  - economic productivity
  - responsible citizenship
  - lifelong health
  - strong communities
  - successful parenting of the next generation







- **Steps to Create Safe, Stable, and Nurturing Relationships and Environments framework:** Proposes a process and strategies that communities can consider to promote safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments for children and families
- **Four goal areas:**
  1. Raise Awareness and Commitment to Support Safe, Stable, Nurturing Relationships and Environments and Prevent Child Maltreatment
  2. Use Data to Inform Action
  3. Create the Context for Healthy Children and Families through Norms Change and Programs
  4. Create the Context for Healthy Children and Families through Policies



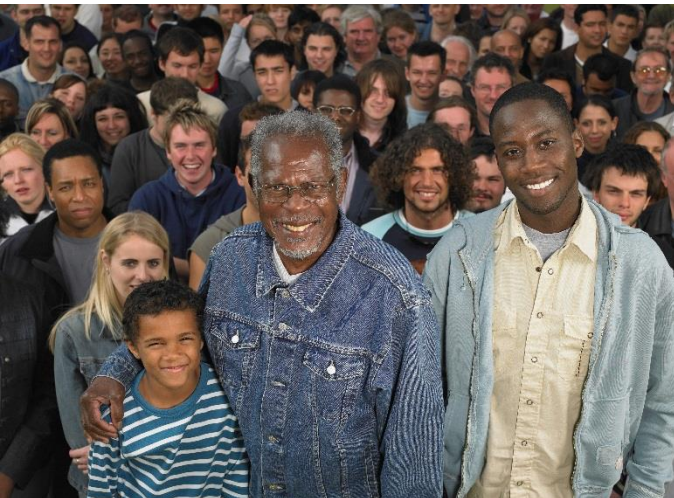


## Essentials: State Implementation

- **CDC Funding 5 State Health Departments**
  - California
  - Colorado
  - Massachusetts
  - North Carolina
  - Washington
- **Many Self Supported States - participating in initiative in some way**
  - Training/technical assistance and meetings also available to self supported states



## States Are Assuring Safe, Stable, Nurturing Relationships and Environments through:



- **Partnerships** with:
  - State health department
  - Core injury program
  - CBCAP lead agency
  - One or more of national prevention organizations (PCAA, CTF, PA)
  - Business
  - Other non-traditional partners like media
- **Work in all four goal areas**
- Focus on creating **CONTEXT** that supports safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments
- Focus on **health equity** as part of this work: Address relationships between social and economic contexts that place some children more at risk and lead to inequitable health outcomes
- Use **Collective Impact Process** to help achieve the vision of what we want: safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments for all children





## Supplementary resources to support implementation

- **Available now:**

- Raising Awareness and Commitment <http://www.cdc.gov/ViolencePrevention/childmaltreatment/essentials/index.html>
- Promoting Positive Community norms <http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/efc-promoting-positive-community-norms.pdf.pdf>
- Essentials for Parenting <http://www.cdc.gov/parents/essentials/>
- Raising of America [www.raisingofamerica.org](http://www.raisingofamerica.org)
- Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) information <http://vetoviolence.cdc.gov/apps/aces/>

- **Under development:**

- Suggestions for the media on how to include prevention in coverage of CM
- Suggestions for how organizations/agencies can better engage with media to include prevention
- Suggested actions for business/employers

